

**Saint Katharine Drexel School
Committee Minutes
9/14/21
7:00 pm**

Attendees:

Principal Jennifer Crombie, Angela Zwald (President), Mark Roedl (Vice-President), Sarah Bindl (Secretary), Jennifer Wendorf, John Bowser, Danielle Paul, Adam White, Marybeth Schessow, Father Will

Absent: Estella Calvo-Gill

Call to Order:

Angela Zwald, Committee President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Opening Prayer:

Opening prayer was led by Angela Zwald. Sarah Bindl is on for next month.

Introduction of Guests:

None

Approval of Minutes:

John Bowsver made a motion to approve the August minutes followed by Jenny Wendorf.

Roundtable - Share something positive:

Adam White shared his observations that the first few days of school went really well for the school and his family. John Bowsver shared that Sophia Mosher is a great asset to our school community and has already begun to communicate with families. Danielle Paul misses coming to SKDS to drop off her son who is now a freshman at BDHS! Marybeth Schessow shared that while she was at school the announcement came over the speaker that the PE teacher had her baby. The kids in the upper grades cheered and it was neat to hear their excitement for her. Jenny Wendorf shared the

volleyball season is up and running. Jenny Crombie shared she received quite a few positive emails from parents about the recognition of baptisms at mass.

Principal's Report

- We have had two school Masses and have had our first Mass at which we celebrated the anniversary of the Baptism for the months of August & September. I have heard many positive comments about it, both from parents and students.
- We still have the following positions still open for next year:
 - **Before-School-Care & Extend-A-Day Coordinator:** This is a .50 FTE position.
 - **Long-term sub for Phy. Ed. Sept-Oct.**
- Theme Day planning is underway. Theme Day is Friday, October 1, 2021. The committee is planning a community outreach service project, in addition to preparing "If You Give a Kid a Catholic Education..." presentation for Catholic Schools Week.
- I met with Eric Larsen about the Forward Exam results: Here are some additional links with Forward Exam data. [SKDS vs. State Results](#) I will share some additional information at the meeting.
- We have purchased three additional (greatly needed) lunch tables. Each table costs \$1500. I have received \$600 in donations to help cover the cost of the tables.
- Topics/Events on the agenda that will be discussed:
 - Soles for Catholic Education Walk-the Arch will match funds up to \$5000, we can use the website, Facebook, etc. to get donations, local walk on October 16, 2021, need someone to chair this event.
 - Homecoming (No School at SKDS on Friday, October 8.)
 - 8th Grade class trip

- Questions from a parent I would like to bring to the SAC for discussion: This was sent to me from a parent who feels strongly that the wearing of masks should have been left up to the parents to decide what is best for their children. The following is the last paragraph of a long email in which she, clearly but kindly, stated her reasons for wanting the wearing of masks as an option. *"I guess our only question for you would be this: When parents are so scared that they feel they can usurp the freedom of choice from other parents and force these personal medical decisions on our children, we have to wonder what the next recommendation will be when the new variants emerge, as they undoubtedly will. As panic ensues will it be forced vax or no entrance into school? I guess we are wondering where is the red line drawn and when is it crossed? We have to ask these tough questions and consider the moral and ethical impacts of that."*
- BP (Jerry's) the BDUSD Gas Pump \$.02/gallon will go to SKDS during the month of September
- Day of Giving-NCEA
- Catholic Social Responsibility for Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee document: I will share a copy at the meeting. We can review and discuss this at the October meeting. Videos for parents from Kathleen Cepelka and Archbishop Listeck will be coming out soon.
- The 2021-22 classroom numbers AT THIS TIME are: 3K: 7 students, 4K: 23 students, 5K: 13 students, Grade 1: 17 students, Grade 2: 14 students, Grade 3: 17 students, Grade 4: 22 students, Grade 5: 21 students, Grade 6: 17 students, Grade 7: 18 students, Grade 8: 26 students. Total 3K-8 = 194 students. These are students who have completed registration forms. We are still waiting to hear from a few families.

Pastor's Report:

Father Will inquired about our opinions on the sign in front of the school that communicates mass times and other information. It may not be in an ideal location. We will continue the conversation in the future about the best possible location for the sign. Looking for better visibility.

Committee Reports:

Finance - John Bowser reported the committee discussed Patty Schmitt's salary and the food service position. They are in favor of increasing Patty's hourly rate as she is now taking on the role of food service director in addition to her regular duties.

Parish Council Liaison Report - Estella Calvo-Gill (liaison) shared Fr. Will brought some thoughts to the table encouraging us to brainstorm ideas about evangelization, to think where we are and where we're going, to organize and rebuild due to COVID, to look for collaboration between Parish and community, maybe getting the SKDP and Tri-Parishes closer together and more unified. They reviewed the bulletin design and talked about whether or not the paper format is still needed or online only. Possibly having a monthly newsletter and bringing in a committee or a professional to do all this marketing and communications. There are still 3-4 open positions for the council.

Unfinished Business:

Subcommittee updates

- Athletics - Jenny Wendorf has found volleyball coaches for this season. However, there is a need for volunteers for some of the games as the coach may not be available during the game times. There are also questions about masking and concessions. The next steps will be to have a solid committee that has seasonal meetings where the expectations for parents are laid out. Action item - Parent meeting by the end of October.
- Alumni Update - We had a goal of increasing our facebook group members to 300 members by the end of August and we reached 427 members. We will continue to post flashback photos for members to enjoy!

- Fundraising - Football Mania - Families made announcements at mass. Tickets were sold after mass.
- COVID Committee - Renaming this committee (Health & Safety Committee), recruiting people who have backgrounds in certain areas (air quality for example), and writing objectives for this committee will be the main goals.
- Marketing/Public Relations/Fundraising - Sarah Bindl will formulate a form to be sent to families asking for volunteers in a variety of areas.

New Business:

- 8th Grade Class trip - The committee voted to approve a merit-based class trip for the 8th grade outside of Beaver Dam. Angela made a motion to approve the trip followed by John Bowser. The SAC voted in favor of the motion.
- COVID policy parent letter - We discussed a parent letter involving health & safety policies. Mark will take the parent questions to the Health & Safety Committee and reply to parents making inquiries.
- Christmas Program - Jenny Wendorf and Adam White made motions to have an in-person Christmas program for December 2021. The SAC voted in favor of the motion.
- BD Homecoming - Green/Gold Thursday - Other dress up days will be moved to Catholic Schools week. SKDS does not have school on Friday of that week.
- National Catholic Educational Association Giving Tuesday opportunity - Tuesday after Thanksgiving
- Meeting time moving forward - Our meeting time will be at 6:00 moving forward.

Closing Prayer:

Closing prayer was led by Father Will.

Adjournment:

Jenny Wendorf made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by Adam White.

